

YO999-247DIV

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re divisional patent application of

Muller et al.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Filed: Concurrently herewith

Examiner: Unknown

For: LATERAL PATTERNING

Assistant Commissioner of Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits and calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after line 3, insert the following:

-- Cross-Reference To Related Applications

This application is a division of U.S. Application Serial Number 09/377,246 filed

August 19, 1999.--

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please substitute the attached formal drawings (10 sheets, containing Figs. 1-27) for the drawings which were originally filed with the parent application. The drawings originally filed

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with the parent application are attached to a copy of the originally filed specification which are included herewith.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

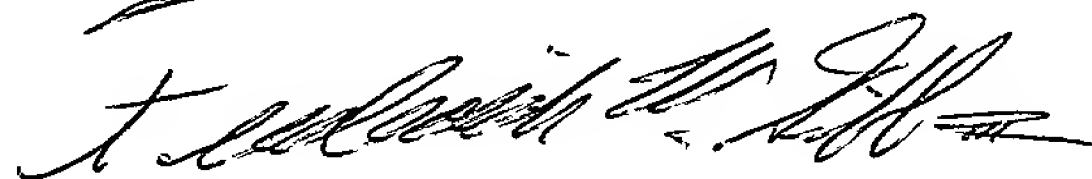
The above changes to the claims have been made to cancel claims being prosecuted in a separate application. This Preliminary Amendment leaves claims 21-26 pending in the present application.

The prior application is assigned of record to International Business Machines Corp., Armonk, New York.

Early and favorable prosecution on the merits is respectfully requested.

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0510.

Respectfully submitted,



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